In a note in a subsequent number of *Science*, Dr. A. E. Ortmann claims the existence of adequate geological evidence of the former extension of the continent "Antarctica." In this case the distribution of Galaxias would be easily explained, but it could be conceivably explained without it. Dr. Ortmann notes also evidence of the faunal union of Japan with Europe when the climate of Siberia was much warmer than now. This evidence is drawn from the distribution of Crustacea. The distribution of the fishes does not, however, yield evidence of this kind.

D. S. J.

**Jordan and Snyder on the Puffing Fishes of Japan.** — In the *Proceedings of the United States National Museum*, Jordan and Snyder continue their monographic reviews of the fishes of Japan, treating of the gymnodont fishes, or puffers. Twenty-seven species are described, belonging to eight genera. Four new species are figured, besides several previously known. The authors unite the genus Lagocephalus with Spheroides, finding a continuous series from one extreme to the other. In like manner, Ovoides is merged into Tetraodon.

D. S. J.

**Kerr on the Paired Limbs of Vertebrates.** — In the *Proceedings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society*, Mr. Kerr discusses the question of the origin of the paired limbs in vertebrates. He finds the view of Balfour and others, that these limbs had their origin in a lateral fold, without adequate support in fact or in theoretical considerations.

The view of Gegenbaur, that they arose from modification of the gill septa separating gill slits, he also criticises unfavorably.

As a provisional hypothesis he brings forward the theory, already foreshadowed by others, that the vertebrate limbs are modified external gills. The close association of the fore limbs and gills shown in Mr. Kerr's plates of the young Lepidosiren, in another paper, seems to lend color to this theory.

D. S. J.

**Notes on Fishes.** — Professor Alfredo Dugès of Guanajuato has recently sent a bottle of little fishes taken in the very hot spring at Ixtlan, in the northwestern part of the Mexican state of Michoacan. These belong to the species described by Woolman as *Gambusia infans*. It is a valid species, distinguished by its small size and plain color among other things, but the original description is at fault in